



Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Resolution to Amend the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan To incorporate the Route 29 Solutions Package into the 2040 LRTP

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Policy Board is concerned about the welfare and safety of the residents of the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County and the conditions of its transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Policy Board is invested in the current and future traffic issues on and surrounding the U.S. 29 corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Policy Board is concerned about growth and planned development along the U.S. 29 corridor in Albemarle County and farther north; and

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Policy Board recognizes that the U.S. 29 corridor is both a state and local road and must accommodate the needs of both state and local traffic; and

WHEREAS, the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Policy Board understands that the U.S. 29 Corridor is a Corridor of Statewide Significance; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), which approves the Commonwealth's Six Year Improvement Program (SYIP), has chosen to fully fund the projects included in the Route 29 Solutions Project Package and listed below*:

1. Route 29 Widening Project (Town Center Drive to Polo Grounds Road)
2. Hillsdale Drive Extended (Greenbrier Drive to Hydraulic Road)
3. Best Buy Ramp project (US 29 and US 250 Interchange)
4. Adaptive Signal Time Improvements in the US 29 Corridor (Airport Road to Hydraulic Road; signals at Angus Road/US 29, Morton Drive/Emmet Street, and Hydraulic Road/Hillsdale Drive are also included in the project) *The MPO also encourages the extension of this signalization project to Ivy Road in the City of Charlottesville, either as a separate project or as a second phase for this project.*
5. Route 29/Rio Road Grade Separated Interchange
6. Route 29/Hydraulic Road Grade Separated Interchange (*PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING ONLY, would also include the study of Hillsdale Drive South*)
7. Hillsdale Drive South (Hydraulic Road to Holiday Drive) *The MPO does NOT endorse the obligation of right of way or construction funding for this project until the scope of the project, particularly the southern terminus, has been studied completely and the MPO agrees to the collaboratively determined next steps.*
8. Berkmar Drive Extended (Town Center Drive to Hilton Heights Road)
9. Additional Train AMTRAK Regional Service; and

* Projects 1 -3, 5 and 8 are already in the 2040 LRTP. Projects 1 through 3 are already in the MPO's TIP and would be revised with this amendment. Projects 4 through 8 would be added to the TIP. Project 9 is still being assessed for inclusion in the TIP. All projects are in the SYIP and are State priorities.

WHEREAS, the MPO Policy Board endorsed this project package at its May 23rd 2014 MPO Policy Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen's Transportation Advisory Committee and the MPO Technical Committee have both had the opportunity to review and provide input regarding these projects; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlottesville and the Virginia Department of Transportation have come to an agreement that the Hydraulic Road Interchange and Hillsdale Drive South project will be studied in tandem; and

WHEREAS, U.S. 29 is our main street for both vehicular traffic and commerce, we expect VDOT and/or their designee to minimize the negative impacts and focus on maintenance of traffic; and

WHEREAS the Charlottesville and Albemarle communities have high expectations for public communication, we expect the VDOT and its contractor(s) to make every effort to communicate all stages of planning and construction through multiple means, including, but not limited to, signage, website, telephone hotline and/or text messaging, public meetings, and other options; and

WHEREAS, the CTB has also approved this project package in the Commonwealth's SYIP at an overall funding total of \$230 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, much of this project package would be funded with allocated but unspent funding for the U.S. 29 Western Bypass project; and

WHEREAS, this resolution also revises the MPO Policy Board's position regarding the U.S. 29 Western Bypass in that this project only remains in the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan to facilitate the project's transition, as initiated by the CTB at its July 16th meeting, including the resale of right-of-way purchased for the project:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Policy Board chooses to amend the MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan (2040 LRTP) to include the above list of projects, as they are scoped in the SYIP, and allow the Federal Highway Administration to authorize the above list projects to progress.

Adopted this 23rd day of July 2014 by the Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization.

ATTESTED:



Kristin Szakos, Chair
Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO Policy Board



Date